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INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0286

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 002949

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/02/2016
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [AU](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO AUSTRIA: SUPPORT FOR REVISED
JOINT/PARALLEL DEMARCHE IN BEIJING ON TREATMENT OF PRISONERS

REF: A. STATE 155944

[1](#)B. STATE 132130

Classified By: Economic-Political Counselor Gregory E. Phillips for reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) EconPolOff delivered ref A demarche on October 2 to Elisabeth Koegler, the Acting Head of the MFA's Human Rights Division. Koegler stated that Austria, during its EU Presidency this spring, had consistently highlighted the PRC's mistreatment of prisoners. She noted that her colleagues in Beijing were dealing with the specific cases of human rights violations.

[1](#)2. (C) Koegler agreed that parallel demarches were a good way to proceed to influence the GoC to abide by its obligations under international law to respect human rights. She said that Austria would continue to work with others in this regard. She had no additional feedback on the previous talking points (ref B) post had delivered on August 18.
McCaw